

Tim Mulherin Labor for Queensland

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Paul French Co-convenor Brisbane CBD BUG GPO Box 2104 Brisbane 4001

Via Email: convenors@cbdbug.org.au

Dear Mr French

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 January 2015 concerning Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Groups (CBD BUG) Policy Statement for the 2015 State Election.

Labor believes Queensland needs a public transport system that is fair, affordable and sustainable.

Under Newman LNP Government, the number of people using public transport has plummeted. Patronage in South East Queensland (SEQ) has fallen to its lowest level since 2007, despite population growth.

Traffic and congestion cost our cities dearly. By 2020 congestion in Brisbane alone will cost \$3 billion each year. This means commuters will spend more time sitting in traffic and less time at home with their families.

A well-utilised and efficient public transport system enables the movement of resources to support employment and the economy, along with the potential to increase the health benefits of those using the system.

Labor supports the development and growth of an integrated public transport network that incorporates and grows the use of walking and cycling, either for recreation or for commuting to and from work.

Labor will undertake a fare structure review that will be led by expert panel to establish a future fare structure that is fair, affordable, and designed to boost patronage across the network.

Getting the right fare structure in place plays a large part in the decision to use public transport instead of private vehicles.

A future Labor government will also commence a review of the cycling network to establish usage patterns and volumes to determine infrastructure and funding requirements.

Our plan for Queensland is to support jobs and frontline services such as public transport, and to ensure proper utilisation of our public transport network.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Opposition on the CBD BUG Policy Statement.

Yours sincerely

Tim Mulherin MP

Deputy Leader of the Opposition

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